

Barth, John

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May 1st, 1914

Hon. J. R. Boyle,
Minister of Education,
Edmonton.

Dear Mr. Boyle:

I have just telegraphed to you stating that I regret that my other engagements will not allow me to accept the kind offer of the Government to act as Chairman of the Commission on the Bill regarding Calgary University. I have already completed arrangements to leave for Europe shortly after the Commencement exercises in June, and I shall not be back in Toronto until the beginning of September. During that month there will be so much to do in getting affairs under way for the opening of the next session that I fear it will be impossible for me to take charge of a Commission of such importance involving perhaps a somewhat lengthened visit to the West. If there is any information, however, that I can give to the Commission or if my opinion can be of any service I shall be glad to help the members of it in any way possible.

Yours sincerely,

President.



Edmonton, May 5, 1914.

R. A. Falconer, Esq., C.M.G., M.A., LL.D., D.Litt.,
President, University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Doctor Falconer:-

I am in receipt of yours of First instant and am very disappointed to think that you may not be able to act as chairman of the commission respecting the university situation in this province. I do not think that the inquiry will require anything like the amount of time that you appear to believe.

The situation is simply this,- that the commissioners will be expected after ascertaining all the facts with respect to Calgary College and with respect to our own University and with respect to our secondary schools to decide whether or not we should continue our present policy of one central university or adopt the policy of giving university charters to colleges such as Calgary College. All the information with respect to secondary schools in the Province will be compiled by the Department of Education. The facts respecting Calgary College and the University here can I think be fully ascertained in a few days and I do not think that the commission would really



Dr. Falconer,

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require to be longer in Alberta than say a week or ten days at the most.

If you thought that it would be possible to spend that much time either before leaving for Europe or after, we would be very pleased indeed, as I may say that I am personally anxious that you should be chairman of this commission being satisfied that the findings of a commission with the personnel suggested would carry great weight in this Province. If, therefore, you cared to undertake it I can assure you that every assistance will be given you by the Department. As I pointed out before I am quite satisfied that the commission will not require to be more than a week here.

If it were possible for you to accept and arrangements could be made to visit Alberta before you went to Europe then the other commissioners would no doubt meet you in Toronto if necessary in the fall to complete the report.

Very sincerely yours,

121

T. D. FORM 1 B

Canadian Pacific Railway Company's Telegraph

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Edmonton ab May 13. 14

Pres Falconer

Toronto University

Think time suggested in your telegram sufficient and will be satisfactory to us I wired other Commissioners today

J. R Boyle

Your nearest Telegraph office at
Hanna's Drug Store
221 Spadina Ave.
Tel. 444-277

May 18th, 1914

Hon. J. R. Boyle,

Minister of Education,

Edmonton, Alta.

Dear Mr. Boyle:

I have just sent you a telegram accepting the Chairmanship of the Commission which the Alberta Government have done me the honor to offer me. I asked our Board of Governors last week whether they would be willing that I should take the extra time in September, and they have agreed to giving me this additional leave. It will mean that I must leave England a week earlier than I had intended, come to Toronto and get my arrears of business attended to, and leave for the West so as to be with you if possible by Thursday, the 3rd of September.

You state in your letter that you think a week should be sufficient for us to get the necessary information in Edmonton and Calgary. I presume that we shall need a good deal of information about the school system of the Province, and the various districts in which schools of the highest grade are placed. We should also I think have a full account of the proceedings by which the University of Alberta has gradually come to position in which it is to-day. If there is any information you can let me have before I go to England I shall be glad to receive it in order that I may consider it when I am away.

Yours very sincerely,

President.



Edmonton, May 27, 1914.

Dr. R. A. Falconer,
President Toronto University,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Doctor Falconer:-

I am in receipt of yours of 18th inst.
and beg to say in reply that the order-in-council appointing
the commission has been passed and the commission itself will
be forwarded to you in a few days.

I am having statistics assembled for
you and other information gathered and will forward to you
in a few days.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Minister of Education.

